

BUCKDEN PARISH COUNCIL CEMETERY REGULATIONS

**Funeral Directors are requested to bring these
Regulations to the notice of their clients**

INTERMENTS

1. The normal grave plot is 2.7m by 1.2m and is purchased from the Parish Council.
2. Cremated remains must always be interred in a purchased grave, which may be either one of the small special plots reserved for this purpose or, a family grave in which exclusive rights of burial have already been granted for a previous interment.
3. Exclusive rights of burial may be purchased for any grave or to inter cremated remains.
4. The grant of burial rights is at the discretion of the Parish Council upon receipt of the appropriate fee and will be for a period of 75 years.

GENERAL

1. The Council does not undertake the digging of graves. That is the responsibility of the Undertaker, who is also responsible for the removal of all unwanted spoil from the burial ground forthwith.
2. A 'double depth grave' shall be a minimum depth of 1.83m below normal ground level, i.e. there must be 1.45m of earth over the coffin. For second burials there must be at least 0.92m of earth between the coffin and normal ground level.
3. The Council shall be responsible for making up graves where necessary after a suitable period for settlement and reserves the right to turf over level with the surrounding ground.
4. The Council cannot undertake the tending of individual graves and is responsible only for the general upkeep and good order of the burial ground as a whole. The upkeep of the grave is the responsibility of the owner of the burial rights and they:
 - a. must ensure that the responsibility is passed in their will. The Parish Council reserve the right to deal with the grave site as they see fit should it not be maintained in a good condition.
5. Applications for interment must be made to the Clerk to the Council on the Council's form, a supply of which can be obtained from the Clerk.

MEMORIALS

1. All gravestones, monuments or other memorials of any description and all inscriptions on them must be approved by the Council, and the appropriate fee paid before erection. The license will be for a period of 20 years. The memorial will be inspected every five years. Should the memorial be found to be unsafe the owner of the burial rights will be advised and the memorial mason will be required to repair the memorial to approved standards (currently the NAMM Code). Should the memorial be found to be unsafe after the right to erect has expired then the Parish Council will be free to deal with the memorial in whatever way they see reasonable including the removal of the memorial if necessary.

The following types of memorials are NOT permitted

- kerbstones which enclose a plot, or flower beds which require tending;
- Wooden memorials of any sort.
- On a burial grave only, the following types of memorial will be permitted:
 - a. a vase or cross, or a headstone not exceeding 0.9m in height with a width of 0.6m;
 - b. a flat tablet not exceeding 0.6m x 0.6m;
 - c. a raised tablet not exceeding 0.6m x 0.6m whose base does not exceed 0.6m x 0.6m.
- On a cremated remains plot only the following types of memorial will be permitted:
 - a. a memorial no more than 0.4m high with plinths contained within the plot site.
 - b. a flat tablet not exceeding 0.3m x 0.3m
- Regulations regarding the size of memorials apply regardless of the number of graves for which they are installed.
- All memorials must be installed to NAMM standards. Should a subsequent burial take place the Funeral Directors should facilitate any other interment in the grave.
- All memorials must carry the grave number (figures only) in a clearly visible

position. This will be at the bottom right hand corner of the plinth in the case of headstones and crosses and the front right-hand corner for slabs.

- All memorials must be kept neat and in good repair at the owner's expense. Failure to maintain the memorial in a safe condition could lead to its removal or laying flat.
- All flowers/plants/memorabilia must be placed on the base of the memorial and not on the grave itself. No children's toys are allowed on any of the graves. Solar lights must not be installed on or near memorials.

Buckden Parish Council January 2018 (Amended)